

JUNE 2026

*Services & Music*



BRISTOL CATHEDRAL

*The*  
LORD MAYOR'S CHAPEL

Here

with

*you,*

yesterday,

today,

and tomorrow

# From the Minor Canon for Worship & Liturgy

As June comes around, now that the events of Easter, Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday have passed, we enter into Ordinary Time. The longest period in the liturgical calendar, and just like the green in our Vestments during this season symbolise, we are invited to continue to grow in our own journeys of faith during this time.

Our worship here continues with our daily offering of services, events and concerts. A number of our own music staff will be performing at our Tuesday lunchtime concerts this month, including Will Forrest our Music Assistant, Paul Walton our Assistant Organist, and our Choral Scholars. Do come along and hear what a fantastic team of musicians we have here at Bristol, as well as some brilliant external musicians throughout the month.

On Thursday 4 June, we have a Eucharist at 6.00pm to celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi, a day when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Sacrament of bread and wine.

At 5.15pm on Saturday 13 June, we look forward to welcoming singers and choirs from across the diocese to join us for our annual 'Come and Sing' Evensong event as we give thanks for the choral tradition across the diocese of Bristol.

At 7.00pm on Thursday 18 June our Cathedral Choir will perform their incredible summer concert here at the Cathedral. This is an immensely popular and enjoyable event, and tickets can still be purchased from our website.

Finally, we prepare to wish farewell to some members of our Cathedral Consort Choir with Valedictions taking place on Sunday 28 June. We give thanks for each one of them, some of whom have been singing with us since being probationers, and we bless them as they journey on to new and exciting things.

There are plenty of other exciting services and events taking place throughout June, do read through this Music and Services list, and we look forward to welcoming you.

The Revd Mel Takáč  
*Minor Canon for Worship & Liturgy*

# TRINITY SUNDAY

Sunday 31 May

7.40am Morning Prayer

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) (Preacher: The Revd Paul Barrett)

10.00am **Cathedral Eucharist**

<i>Preacher</i>	<i>The Dean</i>	Hymns
<i>Setting</i>	<i>Missa Brevis Jonathan Dove</i>	373 Coe Fen
<i>Motet</i>	<i>Hymn of the Cherubim Sergei Rachmaninov</i>	<i>Let us build a house</i>
<i>Voluntary</i>	<i>Prelude in E flat (BWV 552, i) J.S. Bach</i>	146 Nicaea

11.00am **Choral Mattins** (BCP) in the Lord Mayor's Chapel

<i>Preacher</i>	<i>The Revd Paul Barrett</i>	Venite (51)
<i>Introit</i>	<i>Holy, Holy, Holy Franz Schubert</i>	Psalm 8 (35)
<i>Responses</i>	<i>John Sanders</i>	Hymns
<i>Te Deum</i>	<i>Set 3</i>	146 Nicaea
<i>Jubilate</i>	<i>Morning Service in F John Ireland</i>	343 Redhead
<i>Anthem</i>	<i>God so loved the world John Stainer</i>	373 Coe Fen
<i>Voluntary</i>	<i>Fugue in E flat (BWV 552, ii) J.S. Bach</i>	

3.30pm **Choral Evensong**

<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Canon Neil Patterson</i>	
<i>Responses</i>	<i>Sasha Johnson Manning</i>	Psalm 150
<i>Canticles</i>	<i>Evening Service in C Bryan Kelly</i>	Hymns (HPP)
<i>Anthem</i>	<i>My beloved spake Patrick Hadley</i>	188 Eisenach
<i>Voluntary</i>	<i>Prelude in C BWV 547 (i) J.S. Bach</i>	190 Das Neugeborne Kindelein

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**1 JUNE Monday**

Verses | Cantoris

Visit of the Virgin Mary to Elizabeth

8.15am Morning Prayer;

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong

<i>Responses</i>	<i>Sasha Johnson Manning</i>	Psalm 122
<i>Canticles</i>	<i>Alan Gray in f</i>	Hymn 166 Oriel
<i>Anthem</i>	<i>Ave Maria Robert Parsons</i>	

## 2 Tuesday

8.15am Morning Prayer;

12.30pm Eucharist

1.15pm Lunchtime Recital *Ronny Krippner, organ*

5.15pm Choral Evensong

*Responses* Herbert Sumsion

Psalm 11

*Canticles* Second Service *William Byrd*

Hymn 145 *Old Hundredth*

*Anthem* O Jesu Christ, meus Lebens Licht BWV 118 *J.S. Bach*

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## 3 Wednesday

*Martyrs of Uganda*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Girl Choristers*

*First EP of Corpus Christi*

*Responses* June Nixon

Psalm 111

*Canticles* Edward Bairstow in E flat

Hymn 104 *Salzburg*

*Anthem* The Lord bless you and keep you *John Rutter*

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## 4 Thursday

Corpus Christi (Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion)

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

6.00pm **Sung Eucharist** †*sung by the Cathedral Consort*

Hymns

*Preacher* The Revd Tatjana Ljujić

*Setting* Collegium Regale *Herbert Howells*

268 *Pange Lingua*

*Motet* Ave verum corpus *William Byrd*

307 *Divine Mysteries*

*Voluntary* Prelude on Pange Lingua *Kerensa Briggs*

302 *Song 1*

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## 5 Friday

*Boniface, Bishop and martyr*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Lay Clerks*

*Responses* Philip Moore

Psalm 26

*Canticles* Charles Wood in E

Hymn 221 *Exultet Caelum Laudibus*

*Anthem* Great Lord of Lords *Charles Wood*

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## 6 Saturday

*Ini Kopuria, founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Evening Prayer

Psalm 31

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# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

## BCP First Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 7 June

7.40am Morning Prayer

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) (Preacher: The Revd Mel Takáč)

10.00am **Cathedral Eucharist with baptism**

<i>Preacher</i>	Vice Dean	Hymns
<i>Setting</i>	Missa Alme Pater Andrew Millington	378 Bishopthorpe
<i>Motet</i>	I sat down under his shadow Edward Bairstow	Take my life Nottingham
<i>Voluntary</i>	Toccatà John Sanders	375 Lord of the Dance

11.00am **Choral Mattins** (BCP in the Lord Mayor's Chapel)

<i>Preacher</i>	The Revd Mel Takáč	Venite (35)
<i>Introit</i>	Holy is the True Light William Harris	Psalm 4.1-11 (29)
<i>Responses</i>	John Reading	Hymns
<i>Te Deum</i>	Set 4	334 Old Hundreth
<i>Jubilate</i>	Morning Service in F John Ireland	484 Aurelia [167] (omit *)
<i>Anthem</i>	Listen Sweet Dove Grayston Ives	394 Luckington
<i>Voluntary</i>	Prelude on Pange Lingua Kerensa Briggs	

3.30pm **Choral Evensong**

<i>Preacher</i>	The Dean	
<i>Responses</i>	Anthony Piccolo	Psalm 41
<i>Canticles</i>	New College Service Herbert Howells	Hymns (HPP)
<i>Anthem</i>	And I saw a new heaven Edgar Bainton	209 St Botolph
<i>Voluntary</i>	Psalm Prelude (Set 1, no 3) Herbert Howells	214 Herr Jesu Christ

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## 8 Monday

Verses | Decani

Thomas Ken, bishop, non-juror, hymn writer, 1711

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm **Choral Evensong**

<i>Responses</i>	John Sanders	Psalm 40.1-13
<i>Canticles</i>	Henry Purcell in g	Hymn 244 Tallis's Canon
<i>Anthem</i>	O God the king of glory Henry Purcell	

## 9 Tuesday

Columba, abbot, missionary, 597. *Ephrem, deacon, hymn writer, teacher of the faith, 373*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

1.15pm Lunchtime Recital *Wayne Wilkins, Josephine Reece, clarinet and piano*

5.15pm Choral Evensong

*Responses Anthony Piccolo*

Psalm 46

*Canticles Michael Wise in F*

Hymn 457 *St Columba*

*Anthem O God, thou art my God Henry Purcell*

## 10 Wednesday

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Boy Choristers*

*Eve of Barnabas the Apostle*

*Responses Ian Fox*

Psalm 52

*Canticles George Dyson in c & Geoffrey Burgon in F*

Hymn 167 *Aurelia*

*Anthem Give us the wings of faith Mark Blatchly*

## 11 Thursday

Barnabas the Apostle

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Evening Prayer

Psalm 57

## 12 Friday

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Lay Clerks*

*Responses Michael Leighton Jones*

Psalms 63, 64

*Canticles Short Service Adrian Batten*

Hymn 391 *Gwalchmai*

*Anthem Sancta Maria John Dunstable*

## 13 Saturday

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm **Come and Sing Choral Evensong**

*Responses William Smith*

Psalm 68.1-10

*Canticles Charles Villiers Stanford in C*

Hymn 427 *Laudete Dominum*

*Anthem Insanae et vanae curae Josef Haydn*

# SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

## BCP Second Sunday After Trinity

Sunday 14 June

7.40am Morning Prayer

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) (Preacher: Roger Dubois)

### 10.00am Cathedral Eucharist

<i>Preacher</i>	The Dean	Hymns
<i>Setting</i>	Mass a 4 William Byrd	408 Blaenwern
<i>Motet</i>	Let all mortal flesh keep silence Edward Bairstow	272 All for Jesus
<i>Voluntary</i>	Pageant Leo Sowerby	235 Song 34

### 11.00am Choral Mattins (BCP) in the Lord Mayor's Chapel

<i>Preacher</i>	Roger Dubois	Venite (328)
<i>Introit</i>	With Prayer and Supplication Amy Beach	Psalm 120 (326)
<i>Responses</i>	Richard Ayleward	Hymns
<i>Te Deum</i>	Set 5	486 Fulda
<i>Jubilate</i>	Morning Service in F John Ireland	464 St James
<i>Anthem</i>	When the Lord turned again Adrian Batten	436 Praise, My Soul
<i>Voluntary</i>	Praeludium in D, BuxWV 139 Dietrich Buxtehude	

### 3.30pm Choral Evensong

<i>Preacher</i>	The Revd Kaarina Leong, curate on placement	
<i>Responses</i>	John Sanders	Psalm 42
<i>Canticles</i>	Gloucester Service Herbert Howells	Hymns (HPP)
<i>Anthem</i>	Like as the hart Herbert Howells	248 Solothurn
<i>Voluntary</i>	Paeon Herbert Howells	124 Song 67

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## 15 Monday

Verses | Cantoris

*Evelyn Underhill, spiritual writer, 1941*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

### 5.15pm Choral Evensong

<i>Responses</i>	John Sanders	Psalm 77.1-9
<i>Canticles</i>	Hereford Service Richard Lloyd	Hymn 456 Sandys
<i>Anthem</i>	Evening Hymn Henry Balfour Gardiner	

## 16 Tuesday

Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253 *Joseph Butler, Bishop of Bristol, philosopher, 1752*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

1.15pm Lunchtime Recital *Paul Walton, organ*

5.15pm Choral Evensong

Responses *Anthony Piccolo*

Psalm 81

Canticles *John Blow in F*

Hymn 341 *Franconia*

Anthem *Locus iste Anton Bruckner*

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## 17 Wednesday

*Samuel and Henrietta Barnett, social reformers, 1913 and 1936*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Girl Choristers*

Responses *Peter Nardone*

Psalm 88

Canticles *Christopher Robinson in C*

Hymn 494 *Nun Danket*

Anthem *A Prayer of St Richard of Chichester L J White*

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## 18 Thursday

*Bernard Mizeki, martyr, 1896*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Evening Prayer

*Psalms 91, 92*

7.00pm **Renew That Song: Bristol Cathedral Choir Summer Concert**

Tickets available from <https://bristolbeacon.org/whats-on/bristol-cathedrals-summer-concert/>

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## 19 Friday

*Sundar Singh, sadhu (holy man), evangelist, teacher of the faith, 1926*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Lay Clerks*

Responses *Ian Carpenter*

Psalm 97

Canticles *Collegium Regale Humphrey Clucas*

Hymn 370 *Falcon Street*

Anthem *God our Father Stuart Beer*

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## 20 Saturday

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Evening Prayer

*Psalm 103*

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# THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

## BCP Third Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 21 June

7.40am Morning Prayer

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) (Preacher: The Revd Paul Barrett)

10.00am **Cathedral Eucharist**

<i>Preacher</i>	The Dean	Hymns
<i>Setting</i>	Truro Eucharist David Briggs	355 Song 1
<i>Motet</i>	To thee, O Lord Sergei Rachmaninov	76 Breslau
<i>Voluntary</i>	Pange lingua Naji Hakim	339 Slane

11.00am **Holy Communion** in the Lord Mayor's Chapel

(Common Worship Order One, Traditional Language)

<i>Preacher</i>	The Revd Paul Barrett	Hymns
<i>Psalm</i>	55.17-23 (143)	391 Gwalchmai
<i>Setting</i>	Communion Service in c Charles Wood	361 Deo Gracias
<i>Motet</i>	Ave verum corpus Edward Elgar	424 Cornwall (omit *)
<i>Voluntary</i>	Tuba Tune Craig Sellar Lang	477 Rustington

3.30pm **Choral Evensong**

<i>Preacher</i>	The Revd Tatjana Ljujić	
<i>Responses</i>	Anthony Piccolo	Psalm 46
<i>Canticles</i>	Collegium Magdalenae Oxoniense Kenneth Leighton	Hymns (HPP)
<i>Anthem</i>	Hail gladdening light Charles Wood	249 Eisenach
<i>Voluntary</i>	Postlude on a theme of Gibbons Charles Villiers Stanford	261 Citeaux

5.30pm **Make Music Day Recital** Arkansas Children's Choir

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## 22 Monday

Verses | Decani

Alban, first Martyr of Britain, c.250

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong sung by the Lay Clerks & Choral Scholars

<i>Responses</i>	Stephen Cleobury	Psalm 107.23-43
<i>Canticles</i>	St Paul's Service Mark Blatchly	Hymn 217 Angels Song
<i>Anthem</i>	O praise God in his holiness Andrew Millington	

## 23 Tuesday

*Etheldreda, abbess, c.678*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

1.15pm Lunchtime Recital *Bristol Cathedral Choral Scholars*

5.15pm Choral Evensong sung by the Lay Clerks

Eve of the birth of John the Baptist

Responses *Thomas Tallis*

Psalms 112, 113

Canticles *Second Service Philip Moore*

Hymn 168 *Diva Servatrix*

Anthem *Fuit homo missus a Deo Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina*

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## 24 Wednesday

Birth of John the Baptist

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Evening Prayer

*Psalm 118*

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## 25 Thursday

*Feria*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Evening Prayer

*Psalm 119.57-72*

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## 26 Friday

*Feria*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Lay Clerks*

Responses *Humphrey Clucas*

*Psalm 119.129-144*

Canticles *Arthur Wills in g*

*Hymn 382 Song 13*

Anthem *Holy is the true light William Harris*

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## 27 Saturday

*Cyril, bishop, teacher of the faith, 444*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by RSCM Voices West*

Responses *Richard Shephard*

*Psalms 123, 124, 125*

Canticles *Herbert Sumsion in A*

*Hymn 433 Hanover*

Anthem *Thou, O God, art praised in Zion Malcolm Boyle*

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# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

## BCP Fourth Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 28 June

7.40am Morning Prayer

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) (Preacher: The Revd Mel Takáč)

10.00am Cathedral Eucharist with Consort Valedictions

<i>Preacher</i>	Vice Dean		Hymns
<i>Setting</i>	Coronation Mass W A Mozart	Lord for the years	Lord of the years
<i>Motet</i>	Ave verum Colin Mawby		I come with joy St Botolph
<i>Voluntary</i>	Concert Overture in c Alfred Hollins		393 Mannheim

11.00am Choral Mattins (BCP) in the Lord Mayor's Chapel

<i>Preacher</i>	The Revd Mel Takáč		Venite (202)
<i>Introit</i>	Honour and Majesty Maurice Greene		Psalm 79.8-10 (201)
<i>Responses</i>	William Smith		Hymns
<i>Te Deum</i>	Set 6	440	Lobe den Herren (omit *)
<i>Jubilate</i>	Henry Purcell in B flat		339 Slane
<i>Anthem</i>	The Lord Bless You and Keep You John Rutter	420	Wolvercote
<i>Voluntary</i>	Fugue sur le thème du Carillon des Heures de la Cathédrale de Soissons, Op 12 Maurice Duruflé		

3.30pm Choral Evensong sung by the Consort

Eve of Peter and Paul, Apostles

<i>Preacher</i>	Toby Harley, ordinand on placement		
<i>Responses</i>	Philip Wilby		Psalm 50
<i>Canticles</i>	Charles Wood in D		Hymns (NEH)
<i>Anthem</i>	Blessed city, heavenly Salem Edward Bairstow	368	Cwm Rhondda
<i>Voluntary</i>	Prelude in C BWV 547 (i) J S Bach		364 Abbot's Leigh

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## 29 Monday

Verses | Cantoris

Peter and Paul, Apostles

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong sung by the Lay Clerks & Choral Scholars

<i>Responses</i>	Stephen Cleobury		Psalms 140, 141
<i>Canticles</i>	Fifth Service Stuart Beer	Hymn 213	Aeterna Christi Munera
<i>Anthem</i>	The Communion of Saints Paul Edwards		

JUNE

## 30 Tuesday

*Feria*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

1.15pm Lunchtime Recital *William Forrest, Organ*

5.15pm Choral Evensong

*Responses* Anthony Piccolo

Psalm 144

*Canticles* First Service Thomas Morley

Hymn 64 Abridge

*Anthem* Give us the wings of faith Ernest Bullock

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## 1 JULY Wednesday

*Henry, John and Henry Venn, priests, evangelical divines*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Girl Choristers*

*Responses* June Nixon

Psalm 6

*Canticles* Alan Ridout in E

Hymn 391 Gwalchmai

*Anthem* Sing we merrily Christopher Symons

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## 2 Thursday

*Feria*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Evening Prayer

*Psalm 12, 13*

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## 3 Friday

Thomas the Apostle

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Choral Evensong *sung by the Lay Clerks*

*Responses* Thomas Tallis

Psalm 18. 1-27

*Canticles* Tone iii Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Hymn 173 Regent Square

*Anthem* O decus apostolicum Tomás Luis de Victoria

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## 4 Saturday

*Feria*

8.15am Morning Prayer

12.30pm Eucharist

5.15pm Evening Prayer

*Psalm 22*

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# Services

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## Bible Translation

The Cathedral uses the NRSV Anglicised Edition translation of the bible for all services except BCP Holy Communion on Sundays. Reading selections are taken from the Common Worship Lectionary, with Evensong readings taken from the Pillar Lectionary. At the Lord Mayor's Chapel, the King James Version is used, and readings are taken from the BCP readings of the day.

## Choir

Unless otherwise specified, all choral services are sung by the Cathedral Choir or, at the Lord Mayor's Chapel, the chapel choir.

## Communion

If it is your custom to receive communion in your own church, you are welcome to receive here, whatever your denomination. You may choose not to receive wine from the common cup, recognising that some people are still vulnerable. For the safety of all please do not intinct (dip the bread/host) into the chalice.

## Feast Days Key

On each day there is an indication of whether it is a day of significance.

The different significances are indicated as follows:

- *Feria (no commemoration or otherwise)*
- *Commemoration*
- Lesser Festival
- Festival
- **PRINCIPAL FEAST**

For Festivals and Principal Feasts, (and the evening service the day before) the altar colours will reflect the occasion, and Festal Responses are said or sung at the close of the evening service.

## Hymns

Hymns are taken from the *New English Hymnal*, except where it indicates "HPP", which refers to the **blue Hymns for Prayer + Praise** often used at Sunday Evensong.

## Incense

On some feast days, incense is used during the service. This is indicated by the † symbol.

## Live-Streaming

Weekday Morning Prayer is live streamed on our social media channels.

## Photography and Recording

No photography or recording of any other kind may take place during services, concerts, or rehearsals without the express permission of the Chapter.

## Psalms

The traditional BCP Coverdale translation is used at Evening Prayer and Evensong. Common Worship translation is used at all other services. The congregation sit for the psalms, standing for “Glory be to the Father...” at the end of the last psalm.

## Service Length

Said Morning Prayer lasts approximately 15 minutes.

Said Lunchtime Eucharist lasts approximately 30 minutes.

Evensong lasts around 40 minutes; Evening Prayer around 20 minutes.

BCP Communion lasts around 40 minutes.

The Eucharist on a Sunday lasts around one hour.

On a Sunday, Evensong lasts around one hour, incorporating a sermon.

## Translations of Anthems not in English

Translations of weekday anthems sung in languages other than English can be found at the back of this booklet.

## Service Locations

On Sundays, the 8.00am BCP Holy Communion is held at the High Altar, and the 10.00am Eucharist in the Nave.

Morning Prayer is held every day in the Newton Chapel.

Evensong or Evening Prayer is held in the Nave, except

Evening Prayer on Saturdays, which is held in the Berkeley Chapel.

Service locations may change at short notice: please speak

to a verger or one of the welcome team to confirm the location of the day’s services.

12.30pm Eucharist Locations	
Mon	Elder Lady Chapel
Tue	Eastern Lady Chapel
Wed	Newton Chapel
Thu	Berkeley Chapel
Fri	Elder Lady Chapel
Sat	Eastern Lady Chapel

## About the Cathedral Choir

Bristol Cathedral Choir lies at the heart of the worshipping life of the Cathedral, sustaining a pattern of worship that reaches back nearly nine hundred years. Our choristers have the joy and privilege of enabling people to worship God through music and singing. A choir has been singing on the site of the Cathedral since the Augustinian monastery was founded in 1140. When the church formally became Bristol Cathedral in 1542 its statutes required that provision be made for the development and maintenance of the choir, whose role was to sing the praises of God. The passing of the centuries has modified but not destroyed the pattern. The choir consists of around 28 choristers, all of whom are educated at Bristol Cathedral Choir School, 16 probationers, educated at Primary Schools across Bristol and the surrounding area, four university-age Choral Scholars, and six professional Lay Clerks. Each year the Cathedral recruits four boys and four girls who are currently in Year 4 to become probationers when they reach Year 5. If you are interested in finding out more about your child becoming a chorister, please contact the Music & Liturgy Officer, Tim Popple: [tim.popple@bristol-cathedral.co.uk](mailto:tim.popple@bristol-cathedral.co.uk).

## About us

The original foundation of Bristol Cathedral was an abbey established in 1140. It was built just outside the original walls of Bristol on high ground overlooking the river. The new monastery was dedicated to St Augustine of Canterbury, but followed the rule of Augustine of Hippo, a Bishop from North Africa who established communities in which priests lived an ordered life, but one that was not detached from the needs of local people.

The architecture of the building was initially characterised by a particularly elaborate variety of the Romanesque style, with rounded arches and rich carvings that can still be seen in the Chapter House. However, between the 13<sup>th</sup> and early 16<sup>th</sup> centuries a sequence of rebuilding projects transformed the church into a Gothic one, with its familiar pointed arches. The most important of these was the unique and beautiful ‘hall church’ east end begun in 1298.

The nave of the church was in the middle of being rebuilt just when Henry VIII dissolved the country’s monasteries and confiscated their assets. However, Bristol was an important place – England’s second city – and in 1542 the truncated building, its building works abandoned, was designated the Cathedral of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, Bristol.

The people of Bristol themselves funded the rebuilding of the nave, from 1868. Like many other institutions in Bristol, these donations would have been substantially built on the legacy of trade in sugar, tobacco and cotton, which until earlier in the century had depended on the labour of enslaved Africans. We acknowledge and repent the human impact of this legacy, together with the experience of racism that flows from it, and are working to address it.

Monuments to the aristocrats and traders of Bristol are all around you, but also notice the stained-glass windows commemorating the sacrifice of ordinary volunteers during the Second World War, and remember the many unnamed artisans and craftspeople who shaped this building, and ordinary citizens buried in its vaults.

Cathedrals are places of prayer and welcome for everyone, and we seek to be a place of welcome for all, to be here for the people of Bristol and beyond.

**THE LORD MAYOR’S CHAPEL** dates back to 1220 initially built as part of a hospital founded by Maurice and Henry de Gaunt, grandsons of Robert Fitzharding, founder of the Abbey of St Augustine (which would later become Bristol Cathedral). At the dissolution of the monasteries in 1541, the Chapel was purchased by the Mayor of Bristol, at which point it became the Lord Mayor’s Chapel. It has remained in the ownership of the City Council (and its predecessors) ever since, and since April 2023 has been in the care of Bristol Cathedral.